

Subject: Access to Housing = Less Homelessness
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To: john@thescbd.com



Increasing Access to Affordable Housing

One of the biggest drivers of homelessness in Los Angeles is the lack of available affordable housing. The city is working to build more supportive and affordable housing by dedicating hundreds of millions of Measure HHH funds to this purpose in the coming year. In all, the budget just approved by the City Council dedicates \$440 million over the next fiscal year toward resolving homelessness, a 150 percent increase over what we spent last year. This includes money for housing, shelters, rapid-rehousing, encampment clean-ups, law enforcement and more.

Another available tool in the fight to end homelessness is increasing the effectiveness of the federally-funded Housing Choice Voucher Program, more commonly known as Section 8. Section 8 is a tool that cities use to help very low-income residents get quality, affordable housing, which helps keep them from falling into homelessness. But in Los Angeles alone, there are more than 2,700 Section 8 voucher holders who can't find a single unit to rent.

What's frustrating is that there are units available that don't get rented to voucher holders. Part of the problem is the pernicious stigma associated with Section 8 among some landlords. As a result, Angelenos in need wait

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years on a list to get approved for a voucher only to have the voucher expire before they can use it because they cannot find an apartment owned by a landlord willing to rent to them. This is an issue I believe we can fix.

Under California law, discrimination based on a person's source of income is prohibited, but because Section 8 vouchers aren't considered a traditional source of income in our state, landlords can deny voucher holders a place to live without consequence. This makes it necessary for us to act locally to outlaw this kind of discrimination. To date, more than 40 California cities and towns have done so, and I believe Los Angeles should do the same.

I filed a motion this week to outlaw discrimination against Section 8 holders in the city of Los Angeles and to find additional ways to increase the acceptance of the vouchers. My goal is to make it easier for at-risk families to secure the housing they need, which is something we must do in order to reduce homelessness and improve the quality of life in our communities.

Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you have: (818) 755-7676 or paul.krekorian@lacity.org.

Very truly yours,



Paul Krekorian
LA City Councilmember, Second District

TOP STORIES

Krekorian Approves City of Los Angeles, Metro Budgets

LOS ANGELES - After nearly three weeks of budget meetings and input from city departments and the public, the Los Angeles City Council, led by Budget Chair Paul Krekorian, approved a \$9.9 billion city budget for fiscal year 2018-2019, which begins July 1. This is the city's seventh consecutive

budget process overseen by Councilmember Krekorian.

"This budget is very clear about our values and priorities," said Krekorian. "We want to make Los Angeles a stronger city where quality of life is raised for everyone who lives here. I'm proud of the work we've done to achieve a healthy and fiscally responsible budget, which invests in bringing immediate relief to our homeless neighbors and the neighborhoods they live in, puts more money into fixing sidewalks and streets than ever before, increases the number of trees that will be trimmed, and boosts the number of police patrolling our streets and firefighters stationed in our communities."

Metro Approves Balanced Budget

This week, Councilmember Krekorian approved another massive budget when he joined his fellow Metro Board Members in voting for the transit agency's \$6.5 billion spending plan, which will improve public safety and the customer experience, move forward on major capital projects, implement ridership growth efforts, invest in workforce development, and increase services and regional connectivity.

The budget will also expand Metro's homeless outreach program from two to eight teams. In addition to the budget, the Metro Board also approved the environmental studies for the North Hollywood to Pasadena bus rapid transit project and the North San Fernando Valley bus rapid transit project, which will result in an east-west line across the northern Valley and service CSUN.

Metro Hosts Valley Meeting on Sepulveda Pass Project

 [Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project -- Overview](#)

Check out this short video from Metro about the Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project.

LOS ANGELES - Metro is hosting a community meeting in the San Fernando valley to talk about the plans to improve transit over the Sepulveda Pass.

**Saturday, June 9, 2018, 10am-12pm
Marvin Braude Constituent Service Center
6262 Van Nuys Blvd.
Van Nuys, CA 91401**

Metro is looking for ways to better connect the San Fernando Valley and the Westside. The transit agency is conducting a feasibility study for the Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project to identify and evaluate a range of high-capacity transit alternatives between the Valley and LAX, with possible connections to existing and planned Metro bus and rail lines, including the Orange, Purple and Expo Lines. Come to the community meeting to learn more about the project and initial concepts for the San Fernando Valley-Westside connection. This is your opportunity to find a better alternative than the 405.

LA Animal Services Offering Free Spay/Neuter Certificates



LOS ANGELES - May 31 is the last day to take advantage of the city's free cat spay/neuter program.

All Los Angeles city residents, regardless of income levels, are eligible to receive a certificate that covers the cost of their cat's spay/neuter surgery. Each household is eligible for up to three free certificates. Free spay or neuter surgeries are for companion cats only -- all feral and stray animals are excluded. Certificates must be redeemed at a participating veterinary hospital within 10 days of issuance.

You can apply online at www.lapets.net to receive your free spay/neuter certificate or visit your nearest LA City Animal Services Center. To learn

more about the program, visit www.LAspayneuter.com.

CITY HIGHLIGHT

Fireworks are Illegal in Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES - In anticipation of the summer holidays, many neighborhoods across the East Valley experience a growing number of loud pops and bangs caused by the use of illegal fireworks. Councilmember Krekorian and the Los Angeles Fire Department want to remind all LA residents that **fireworks are illegal in the City of Los Angeles**.

Do not purchase, sell or discharge illegal fireworks in the city or bring fireworks from other cities to use in Los Angeles. Possession and/or use of fireworks within Los Angeles is a violation of Municipal Code 57.5608.1.2, or Section 12677 of the Health and Safety Code.

Each year, fireworks cause horrible injuries, thousands of dollars in damage and endanger children and pets in our neighborhoods. If you witness the sale or use of illegal fireworks, please report it immediately by calling 9-1-1.

Please share this information with your neighbors and friends.

COMMUNITY CORNER

Save the Date: NoHo Summer Nights Coming Soon

NORTH HOLLYWOOD - Get ready for the 2018 season of NoHo Summer Nights! This year, we're bringing more live concerts to North Hollywood featuring bigger bands and more local talent. Starting June 16, the eight-week outdoor event series will bring a dazzling array of music to the park on Saturday nights. And best of all, it's free and fun for the whole family.

Each Saturday, you'll enjoy an impressive lineup of live performances from

popular bands, including Queen Nation - Queen Tribute Band, Center Stage Opera, Raymond Michael - An Elvis Tribute, Savor - Santana Tribute Band, along with fantastic Latin, Zydeco and Celtic music. You won't want to miss a single beat.


To see the full schedule of concerts and RSVP, visit
www.facebook.com/NoHoSummerNights

The NoHo Summer Nights outdoor concert series is sponsored by Councilmember Krekorian in partnership with Valley Cultural Center, the Department of Cultural Affairs, the Department of Recreation and Parks, NoHo Neighborhood Council, Vegan Street Fair, City Plants and Bobrick.

PHOTOS OF THE WEEK



Women Against Gun Violence honored Councilmember Krekorian for his decades of leadership and groundbreaking work to prevent gun violence in Los Angeles. | Photo: CD2

 homelessness fox11 hal eisner

Be sure to watch Councilmember Krekorian discuss the city's efforts to end homelessness with host Hal Eisner this Sunday, 9 am, on Fox 11. | Photo: CD2



The Clean Streets LA team removed bulky items and blight from this North Hollywood neighborhood. | Photo: CD2

COMMUNITY EVENTS



Community Meeting on Local Park Funding

Thursday, May 31, 6 pm - 8 pm

Amelia Earhart Regional Library

5211 Tujunga Ave.

North Hollywood, CA 91601

The Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, in partnership with the LA Neighborhood Land Trust, Nature for All, and



Community Nature Connection, is hosting a Measure A community update meeting to discuss the implementation this important local park funding measure. Please RSVP on the Measure A

[Eventbrite page.](#)



Los Angeles Public Library Autograph Day

Saturday, June 2, 9:30 am - 5:30 pm

**North Hollywood Regional Library &
Studio City Library**

Los Angeles

Drop by your local library in North Hollywood or Studio City to add your name, drawing, poem or memory to the library's autograph collection. City Librarian Charles Lummis began the library's autograph collection in 1906 with contributions from notable people across the country. Now, you can add your name to history.



National Gun Violence Awareness Day Community Fair

Saturday, June 2, 10 am - 1 pm

Grand Park: 200 N. Grand Ave.

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Join Moms Demand Action and a host of organizations to honor communities impacted by gun violence and to learn more about how you can be part of the fight for safer gun legislation. There will be music, food trucks, face painting and community partner booths. Click [here](#) for more

information.



Greater Valley Glen Summer Festival

Sunday, June 3, 2 pm - 6 pm

**Valley Glen Community Park
6150 Atoll Ave.**

Valley Glen, CA 91401

Join the Greater Valley Glen Neighborhood Council



in partnership with Councilmember Paul Krekorian for a family-friendly summer festival at Valley Glen Community Park. Enjoy fun activities including, a petting zoo, bounce house, face painting, live music, food trucks and giveaways. The summer festival is free and fun for the whole family. You can also bring canned or packaged food donations for the homeless.



Hike with Your Representatives: Community Hike with Councilmember Krekorian & Assemblymember Nazarian

Saturday, June 9, 9 am - 10:30 am
Coldwater Canyon Park
12601 Mulholland Dr.
Studio City, CA

Nature is calling! Come out for a morning hike in beautiful Coldwater Canyon Park. Tree giveaway to first 50 people. Parking is very limited, so please carpool or use alternative transportation. No pets are allowed on this hike. RSVP:

bit.ly/treepeoplehike



Valley Ranch Style Homes Walking Tour

Saturday, June 9, 10 am - 12 noon
Meet at corner of Addison & Ethel
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

Author Chris Lukather, founder and editor of the literary journal, *The Writing Disorder*, will take attendees on a stroll in Valley Glen through a cluster special ranch style homes built by William Mellenthin in the 1940s, '50s, and '60s. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased [here](#).



NoHo Neighborhood Council
Moving Meeting Days

Next Meeting
Monday, July 9, 6:30 pm
East Valley High School
5525 Vineland Ave.

North Hollywood, CA 91601

For the first time in 15 years, the NoHo Neighborhood Council is moving its meeting days. The NC will now be meeting on the second Monday of each month. There is no Board meeting in June. The next meeting will be held on July 9, 6:30 pm at East Valley High School.

[Click here to view all the upcoming events on our Community Calendar.](#)

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STAY CONNECTED



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